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**Minutes**

Name of Organization: Nevada Statewide Independent Living Council (NV SILC)

Date and Time of Meeting: Thursday, July 8, 2021

1:00 p.m.

This meeting is open to the public and will be held at the following location:

Nevada Department of Health and Human Services

Aging and Disability Services Division

3416 Goni Road Suite D-132, Carson City, NV 89706

And via video-conference at:

The public may also observe this meeting and provide public comment on Zoom.

**To Join the Zoom Meeting**

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/9299041434?pwd=NmM5Tk1Od3ltRzg1enhRYTU3WDdUZz09>

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Meeting Materials Available at: <https://www.nvsilc.com/meetings/>

1. Welcome, Roll Call and Introductions

Ace Patrick, Chair

Members Present: Ace Patrick, Vickie Essner, Raquel O’Neil, Renee Portnell, Jennifer Kane, Dee Dee Foremaster, Havander Davis, Mary Evilsizer, Sabra McWhirter, Kate Osti, Jennifer Kane, Julie Weismann-Steinbaugh

Members Excused Absent: Cheyenne Pasquale

Members Unexcused Absent: Erik Jimenez, Lynda Tourloukis

Guests: Deanna Gay, Sondra Cosgrove, Dora Martinez, Marina Holcomb, Lance Ledet, Steven Cohen, Hilda Borja-Velasco, Jack Mayes, Maple Hunt, Diane Thorkildson, Mark Tadder, Richele Pennock, Daphne DeLeon,

CART Provider: Becky Van Auken

Staff: Dawn Lyons and Wendy Thornley

1. Public Comment

Members of the public will be invited to speak; however, no action may be taken on a matter during public comment until the matter itself has been included on an agenda as an item for possible action. Please clearly state and spell your first and last name, if unique or otherwise unfamiliar to the Subcommittee. Public comment may be limited to 3 minutes per person, at the discretion of the chair. Agenda items may be taken out of order, combined or consideration by the public body, and/or pulled or removed from the agenda at any time. Pursuant to NRS 241.020, no action may be taken upon a matter during a period devoted to comments by the general public until the matter itself has been specifically included on an agenda as an item upon which action may be taken.

Ace Patrick: Reminded the group to keep comments to three minutes and that there will be another Public Comment towards the end of the meeting. The Public may also submit questions or comments to Dawn Lyons or herself.

Raquel O’Neill: She is honored to join the group and then introduced herself to the group.

Mary Evilsizer: Impressed with the new council members. Talked about new council member trainings and offered to be part of any future trainings for new and established members.

Dora Martinez: Mentioned the Disability Pride month and that July 25th is the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), anniversary. There is a bicycling blind organization for tandem bikes for those who want to try that out who are blind, they will be behind the lead driver.

The Nevada Assistive Technology Resource Center with the NCED, have a Peer to Peer group with IOS technology or iPhone every Tuesday at 1:00 pm. Members of this group are free to share this information.  
Participants from Las Vegas join that call every Tuesday.  
  
The Nevada Governor's council has a self‑advocacy conference taking place in the Silver Legacy Reno, Nevada this year, August 18th and 19th, feel free to check their accessible and awesome website for that.

Ace Patrick: Has been to the bicycling event and described it as wonderful.

Cindi Swanson: Was on the SILC meeting the prior day and was pleased to hear Dawn ask about Southern Nevada receiving the transportation services that were being discussed for the rural areas.

1. Nominations and Election of Chair and Vice Chair for Federal Fiscal Year 2022 (FFY22) **(For Possible Action)**.

Dawn Lyons, Executive Director

Dawn Lyons nominated Ace Patrick to continue as Chair, and Julie Steinbaugh as Vice Chair. They both accepted these nominations. Renee Portnell motioned to accept these nominations. Havander Davis seconded. The votes were unanimous, and the motion carried.

1. Presentation and Discussion Regarding the Meaningful Day Implementation by the Garden Foundation.

Diane Thorkildson, Clinic Coordinator and Family Faculty Member, Nevada Leadership Education in Neurodevelopmental and Related Disabilities (NvLEND) Program

Taylor Gardner, CEO, The Garden Foundation

Diane Thorkildson: She is a faculty member of the Nevada Center for Excellence in Disabilities (NCED), and Leadership, Education for Neurodevelopmental Disabilities (NvLend) and that is how she is involved in the Meaningful Day. She graduated from the NvLEND training.

Taylor Gardner: She graduated from the NvLEND training in June.

Diane Thorkildson: Mechelle Merrill recommended to Dawn to reach out to Diane because Mechelle knew that she had been doing some work around Meaningful Day with the NvLEND trainees.  
They are very excited to tell how the process has been going, what their vision is for moving forward, and then ultimately they would like to talk to the SILC about how they would like to help and get involved.  
The NvLEND group that worked on this last year, included Taylor and Danielle, who is an audiologist with the Clark County School District, and Stephanie King, a speech language pathologist in Washoe County.  
Eilish and Diane were faculty advisors and Lynda Tache, who is the founder of the Grant to Give Autism Foundation in Vegas, and moved to the Collaboration Center, was the other faculty advisor for this project over the course of last year.

Meaningful Day is a vision or a model for the way that services can be developed for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities, that move beyond the typical model where somebody might go to a center from nine to three, Monday through Friday.  
Meaningful Day is about starting with what each individual finds meaningful in his or her life, and then building from there, providing as many community inclusive services as possible.  
It is a person‑centered, self‑determined program, centered around lifestyle choices and very focused on promoting independence.

Community supports are adapted and accommodated to meet that person's needs, to be included in the community, and have the choice and freedom to pursue educational, vocational, social, recreational, all those things that interest the person around whom, they are trying to wrap services.  
It is about embedding that individual in his or her community and finding the natural supports that exist out there that typically developing people, just naturally tap into. That natural pathway is not always available to people with IDBD.  
This discussion around bringing Meaningful Day‑like model in Nevada has been happening for several years now.  
It started by Mechelle Merrill with Vocational Rehabilitation, she started a conversation with an agency in the San Francisco area, they are in multiple places, called Transcen. Transcen provides Meaningful Day‑like services within the San Francisco Bay Area.  
They also spoke to a small nonprofit in Northern Nevada called Applied Policy and Research Institute, about doing basic environmental scanning, looking around to see what may or may not be available in Nevada and if the Transcen model was replicable in an area that's not San Francisco.  
Not being a metropolitan city, with many transportation options, is one of the biggest barriers as discussed below.  
In the 2019‑20 LEND leadership process, a small group was interested in looking at what it would take to develop a Meaningful Day‑like project here in Nevada.  
That is when Diane became involved.   
Charles Schwab bank provided close to $10,000. They funded ARPI to lead the work on creating what would be a pilot project.  
They were hoping to do it during the 2019‑2020 LEND leadership group.  
They had multiple meetings with Mechelle Merrill, Jessica Adams from ADSD, Cyndy Gustafson from ARPI and the LEND group and were making great strides, everybody was excited, and then COVID happened.  
Everything came to a halt. During that year, they were able to create a white paper that essentially laid out why Meaningful Day was important, and then identified the barriers that Nevada would likely experience when bringing the model to the state.  
  
Diane is the parent of a child with a neurodevelopmental disability which is how she came to all this work in the first place.

Taylor Gardner: Her personal connection to the disability community, is her little sister who was born with Down's Syndrome. They are very close in age.  
Taylor has always been involved within the community but now specifically with adulthood because of realizing the gaps within adult services.  
The Garden Foundation is a nonprofit organization serving adults 18 and older with IDD, within Las Vegas and is about three years old. It is still fairly new and smaller by design because Taylor wanted something truly focused on individual and personal needs that was more customized, not a one size fits all.  
It's a smaller place that's designed to help people reach their full potential, whatever that might be.  
Throughout the LEND process, as they got into Meaningful Day, they saw that it is not necessarily a specific program that is formulated and implemented. It is more a philosophy and how can someone take this philosophy and implement it where it can grow and have the flexibility to provide personalized services.  
The Garden Foundation became a great place for Meaningful Day to be implemented.  
Meaningful Day would be a service provided to each and every client and their family within the Garden Foundation.  
  
It's how to enrich a person's life and to provide natural supports.  
Currently, the Garden Foundation offers a main, daily program, Monday through Friday, 12:30 to 4:30 pm, as well as drop-in classes to make it more flexible.  
It works if someone wanted to take an art class with their friend or wanted to take a cooking class.  
Some classes are recreational, others are social skills, life skills, or vocational focused training.  
  
They have engineering, private piano and guitar in small classes.  
The next program they offer is their Community Internship Program that is focused on the individual to have opportunities to explore different careers within their interests. They have hands on skill building and the support of a mentor.  
  
It is an evidence‑based vocational training program, developed with Speak Easy Therapy which is a large therapy office, they have multiple offices within Las Vegas and TOURO university.  
  
They work different social events or farmers markets and their clients are learning how to do customer service; working with squares on the iPad to be able to swipe credit cards, money handling, all skills that are transferable to help someone get a job if that's the type of job they would like to get.  
  
In August of 2020, they received the white paper from the previous LEND group who had done research. They contacted Transcen, in San Francisco. They have other remote locations across the nation that are successfully implementing this.  
They did some webinars through Transcen and spoke with them personally on how they might be able to implement some of those services or how they are doing it successfully.  
They also had a conversation with the New Mexico Department of Health.  
The fact that the New Mexico Department of Health has a community inclusion officer inspired Taylor.  
New Mexico has done a great job, specifically because they have had some lawsuits which pushed them to have the funding, more inclusive settings, and more inclusive services for adults with disabilities. The lawsuit progressed them in these areas and that is also a way that Nevada wants to be. Nevada’s funding structures differ.  
They have various waivers that Nevada does not have.  
The Community Inclusion Officer told them to speak to the state to see how this could be implemented within the funding structure already in place.  
Transcen and New Mexico recommended a braided funding structure, and that was going to be the most sustainable and successful way to implement Meaningful Day.  
That is when they reached out to Mechelle Merrill and Jessica Adams to have that conversation about moving forward and implementing this in Nevada, within the structure of the current available funding sources.  
There are still some missing pieces here in Nevada, due to a lack of flexibility within some of the funding structures.  
After the Garden Foundation met with the state, they consulted with Nexus charting the life course.

Diane Thorkildson: Nexus is part of the University of Missouri at Kansas City, and that university hosts their USED, which is what the NCED is, here in Nevada. They are a national training and technology center, based around person‑centered services such as Meaningful Day.  
Connections through the NCED, were used to meet with their USED. About six or eight hours were spent with one of their lead clinicians and she discussed many things, like direct service components that are necessary in a Meaningful Day‑like model program.

Taylor Gardner: The goal with this LEND project was to develop a pilot.   
The lead clinician shared tools on how to be able to implement this within their onboarding of services.  
  
It went from a philosophy to an operations manual to implement this within the Garden Foundation.  
They did apply for an NCED mini grant and then worked with Pima Medical Institute, an occupational therapy program in Las Vegas to assist the Garden Foundation in implementing some of these piloted materials. They have not piloted yet.  
The Garden Foundation was a private‑pay organization. They have since applied for DRC funding and has been provisionally approved in April.  
They have also applied for Vocational Rehabilitation funding, as a provider as well and have been provisionally approved and are waiting on the Board of Examiners. They have applied and been approved through Medicaid.  
They are currently looking to hire additional staff and seeking additional grant funding to assist in Meaningful Day being able to provide these services.  
  
This would be part of the onboarding process and would be applicable to any client of the Garden Foundation.  
The Garden Foundation family and clients would have an in‑person meeting to go through personalized life and experience planning. The Nexus tools would be used in this planning meeting.  
The Nexus tools include: prioritizing life domains, which might include having a career, a relationship, and it might include their religious aspect.  
  
The Garden Foundation would then take that highest priority, these are prioritized according to the individual, and work to integrate that within the individual's day, week, month, life, and this can also be experiential.  
  
The Garden Foundation would do follow‑ups, after the initial 30 days as well as quarterly.  
Providing that support, facilitation, connections, and helping to find the resources that people need.  
  
A person may want to take a cooking class before finding a job at a bakery.  
Social skills or customer service classes are available if they are more interested in that kind of job. Potentially finding an internship prior to going into a career.  
  
These are part of the Charting the Life course, some of the tools that would be used within the onboarding planning.  
There will be success tracking. Success looks different for everyone.  
They are not holding everybody to the same standard, it is individualized.  
  
Community living, does someone want to live independently, safety and security, healthy living, and so having medical supports if needed, what does that look like.  
  
They have an operating manual already created for Meaningful Day services and tools.  
Their plan is to pilot with current clients and families, people that they have established relationships with. They will pilot with one to three individuals, so they could sit down with families and take their feedback to see how things are working. Do they enjoy this process? And how can the Garden Foundation help to enhance someone's life?  
  
The onboarding and follow‑up with staff, will be the most important piece in providing the Meaningful Day services.

Diane Thorkildson: The primary barrier that was anticipated and that has come to fruition, is the rigidity in Nevada's funding streams. ADSD's funding mechanisms are tied into that six‑hour, day-hab model, and Meaningful Day needs to be much more flexible. Funding that's sustainable for a Meaningful Day model needs to be more flexible and fluid.  
ADSD is completely aware of this and is trying to figure out how to be creative.  
  
Transportation is a huge need across the state. This will be particularly difficult in the rural communities. The recent transportation issues are going to create some anxiety in families.  
It's a shift in thinking around what is possible for their family members, how to support their family members, and it can be a cultural shift not just for the families but the community at large, about how to develop an inclusive community that allows people, whatever ability level, to be an active, participating member in that community, and develop his or her own sense of self‑determination and what he or she wants to do with their world.  
That incremental change, a shifting out of that traditional day-hab model, ultimately is what's going to need to happen at a state policy level, at some service provider thinking levels, and so these are the four main barriers.

Ace Patrick: Asked for the Meaningful Day materials to be sent out and posted on the SILC’s website.

Julie Steinbaugh: She relocated from the San Francisco Bay Area to Nevada. She is familiar with the one thing California has, that we don't have, is the Act, which makes a service entitlement for people with DD. The state cannot say no. They must fund that service.  
This is one of the biggest differences between that model in the San Francisco or California area versus everywhere else in the country.

Diane Thorkildson: The Transcen people were clear that there must be flexibility in funding mechanisms, and she did not know that California had that sort of specialized legislation.

Julie will email to connect with Diane Thorkildson.

Dawn Lyons: She is also looking forward to talking with Diane offline to see what the potential of this model is. It sounds like the Independent Living model. One could interchange them, but this is geared specifically towards the IDD population. She is not sure if there could be an expansion of that with Transcen. Mary from the Southern Center, and other Center people probably have good ideas regarding that.

Diane Thorkildson: One of the things that the two leadership groups have struggled with, is to make contextually and culturally appropriate choices for the communities to make changes to the way that services are delivered. It is based in Independent Living Philosophy and model completely.

Taylor Gardner: Once a pilot has been developed and the Garden Foundation has gone through this operating manual to see what works and what doesn't, this could be something easily taken and implemented within other organizations throughout the state.

Dee Dee Foremaster: She has gone the Farmer’s Market route as far as implementing a program not just for the DD population, but also for the population of homeless that have been on the streets, who have lost a lot of their social skills.  
It pulls them into the community, it helps them have connection, it helps them establish life skills, which often the homeless population with disabilities, lose.

Taylor Gardner: That's something they are currently doing with their “Dig it Coffee” program.  
It is people's favorite part being included in the community and working events and surrounded by people.  
  
Ace Patrick: Felt that it was a great presentation, and she looks forward to seeing how the SILC can be a part of the Garden Foundation, the Meaningful Day, and the way it's being implemented.

Dawn Lyons: The targeted population is DD, is there a cutoff income and how does that look?

Taylor Gardner: The Garden Foundation’s goal is to not have any financial component because they want to have those braided financial services.  
They want this to be accessible and applicable to anyone who does have state services, that they would be able to be a part of what the Garden Foundation is doing.

Dawn Lyons: You said for those who have state services. Is that a requirement?

Taylor Gardner: For those who are going through DRC or through vocational rehab, would be offered a private pay option. That has not been developed at this time for the families who do not have Vocational Rehab or DRC funding.

Dawn Lyons: Are you currently working with or in collaboration with Opportunity Village?

Taylor Gardner: No, not currently. Any community resource that they would be able to provide, for example, if someone wanted to live independently, the Garden Foundation would connect to a resource like Betty's village.  
They want to be a connector within the community, to have the end goal be what the individual determines is important to them.

1. Update and Make Recommendations Regarding the Integrated Workforce Development Subcommittee Initiatives and Findings (For Possible Action).

Sondra Cosgrove, PhD, Subcommittee Chair

Sondra Cosgrove: She gave information on how this subcommittee was formed. She has a nonprofit called Vote Nevada, and their priority is behavioral mental health.  
They been working on behavioral and mental health workforce development for a long time.  
There are severe shortages of professionals in every area of the behavioral and mental health field and if not addressed first, individuals and their families cannot get to a provider.

The subcommittee has been focused on workforce development.  
She did a presentation about that last December, as they were getting ready to go into the legislative session because they knew there was going to be a bill to possibly do an interim study on workforce development, with behavioral and mental health. They wanted to make sure that the word “inclusive” was going to be added to that bill.

They want the words, “Inclusive Workforce Development”, inserted to make sure diversity is included.  
She is also professor at the community college, and they went through a push on workforce development when the economy crashed ten years ago. There was a gap between where her students were, and where good jobs were, but they didn't get childcare which was needed to go to school, or financial aid, or didn't get access to an internship.  
Sondra recently contacted the SILC. It was decided that there was so much there to be talked about, and they created the subcommittee to discuss opportunities for legislative advocacy and have people tell their story.  
At the last subcommittee meeting, Mechelle Merrill attended, and a discussion took place about the federal dollars that are coming into Nevada for workforce development. Those infrastructure dollars are related to making sure people have internet access among other things. The subcommittee is interested if there is going to be any committees, hearings, or any opportunity for feedback, that this subcommittee would be notified of the opportunity for advocacy.   
Mechelle Merrill said that the subcommittee’s goals for individuals, feeling that they had self-determination, living their life the way they want, and having access to jobs, are like the goals for Meaningful Day.  
  
The subcommittee decided to have a Meaningful Day presentation at the next SILC meeting.

Meaningful Day will assist when communicating with the Governor's office, Interim Finance, Board of Regents, etc. regarding federal dollars for workforce development and integrative development in education.

Taylor Gardner: The Garden Foundation also has initiatives around employment, and she is available to discuss more offline. She feels a sense of synergy.

Sondra Cosgrove: During the Pandemic, people realized they could work and do telehealth from home.  
  
During the legislative session, the Lieutenant Governor's office received funds to help people start nonprofits or their own business if they wanted to be a consultant or wanted to work from home as a peer mentor.  
Much will change because of what was learned about workforce development, based on the Pandemic experience. There will be more funding to ensure broadband internet access in people’s homes. This will increase the types of jobs that will become available.

Dawn Lyons: Thanked Sondra Cosgrove for her concise presentation. She asked if the subcommittee would be reaching out to the Garden Foundation for consumer voices.

Sondra Cosgrove: Yes, the subcommittee could do that. She thinks Dawn is referencing AD 450, the bill that was meant for workforce development related to behavioral and mental health.  
That was changed into an interim study on community colleges and workforce development in general.  
There have been three community college workforce development studies. They usually reach out to the Chambers of Commerce, the Las Vegas Global Alliance, and to the business community, but they do not reach out to the regular community, her students, or the disability community.

Dawn Lyons: Feels that Sondra is asking that people show up to public meetings and give Public Comment to advocate for inclusive workforce development.

Sondra Cosgrove: It will be important to educate legislators about successful programs like Meaningful Day in other states, and the need for flexible funding for Meaningful Day here in Nevada.   
  
She would like to have a presentation for Meaningful Day, that she can send to legislators.

1. Report and Discussion Regarding the Nevada State Rehabilitation Council (NSRC) Activities and Blindconnect, Inc. Initiatives, Projects, and Collaborations.

Raquel O’Neill, Chair, NSRC and President, Blindconnect, Inc.

Raquel O’Neill: As of July 1st, she has been the Chair for the Nevada Rehabilitation Council, and they will be holding their state planning meeting on August 13th, with both in‑person and virtual attendance. She is looking forward to hearing stakeholder input and ideas about that state plan.  
As the Chair, she would like to hear more about those individuals who want to go to work or need a job, not just the employer side or the result.

She looks forward to the Rehabilitation Council working with other councils and stakeholders as they move forward.  
They have membership vacancies on the Rehabilitation Council, one for the Native American seat, tribes, to represent the tribes and also a couple of business vacancies.  
  
She is also involved with Blind Connect, a small nonprofit serving the blindness community in Nevada.  
They have recently opened their services from just Southern Nevada to all of Nevada.  
They realized that there is a huge deficit in qualified blindness professionals in the state as there seems to be a professional drought across the country.  
Blind Connect has specialized trainers who work with individuals on how to cross the street with a white cane, how to get from point A to point B or prepare to get a guide dog, and those are important skills and trainings that are needed, but very specialized people who do that.

Blind Connect has been working closely with the state with services to the blind, to provide options where contractors and professionals from other areas can come out and assist in providing much‑needed services that are person centered and include self-determination  
  
She asks newly blind people who come into Blind Connect looking for services, what independence looks like to them. This may mean, getting to choose what outfit to get to wear, but somebody else can assist until the blind individual learns Braille or how to label outfits.  
Blind Connect works with people where they are at, and as vision loss progresses which is most often the case, they revisit those services.

As one of Blind Connect’s initiatives, it has partnered with Betty's village. Betty's village is owned by Opportunity Village, it is a new apartment complex about a mile and a half away from Blind Connect’s training center.  
It was designed specifically with the vision of independent living for all individuals with disabilities. Blind Connect has rented space in the complex.  
They have capacity for four beds to provide residential blindness training skills to Nevadans all across the state. These skills range from cooking, cleaning, orientation, mobility, Braille, technology, self‑advocacy, and all things needed for independence.  
  
Part of their next initiative, is to partner with Services to the Blind with DETR to create eight new training curriculums for low‑vision and blind individuals to go into the workforce.  
This is like a pre‑employment curriculum class, specifically designed for Nevadans, and they will be designing that curriculum until December 31st. In January, they will start their first cohort of individuals who want to go through the pre‑employment training.

Richele Pennock: She is a supervisor at the Bureau of Services for the Blind and visually impaired in Las Vegas. They had their first focus group on the day of this meeting, and Raquel did a presentation. The Bureau of Services for the Blind, looks forward to more focus groups to develop what the citizens of Nevada, blind, visually impaired citizens, are looking for.

Jennifer Kane: She termed off the Rehabilitation Council about two years ago.  
She will make sure that the new Interim Director at the Office of Inclusive Education at the Nevada Department of Education, is aware of the need to fill that council position. They also house Native American Indian education at the department.  
She will reach out to Ferdina and let her know about the need for an Indian education representative.

Dawn Lyons: How does someone attend the virtual SRC input sessions?

Raquel O’Neill: They still need to set them up. She is new to the position.  
She will keep the SILC posted. She would like to have some input sessions or individual calls.

1. Report and Discussion Regarding Consumer Trends at the Centers for Independent Living.

Lisa Bonie, Executive Director, Northern Nevada Center for Independent Living (NNCIL)

Mary Evilsizer, Executive Director, Southern Nevada Center for Independent Living (SNCIL)

Lisa Bonie: She explained how CILs count things.  
CILs are held to a reporting standard of non‑duplicative consumer numbers.  
One consumer may receive many services, phone calls, and communication from a CIL.  
All count as one in the tracking process.

During Covid, the Governor shut the state down. NNCIL started a communications campaign with anyone who had received services through NNCIL for the last three years, using phone calls, text messages, emails, and postcards. They also used social media to keep the public updated on services and resources available.  
They started doing that to get in touch with consumers and talk with them to understand what their needs were in that moment, and for the consumers to understand the resources that NNCIL was offering.  
NNCIL received their CARES Act funding in the middle of April. and by May 1st, started the temporary food assistance program.  
  
Most of the CARES Act money, has gone to this temporary food assistance program. The other big piece, provided the funding to hire a person to keep the food program going. The temporary food assistance program, per person average, is $2,120. This program will be sunsetting at the end of September.

NNCIL also used funds for their emergency eviction relief program as well as personal protective equipment (PPE). Some consumers are receiving PPEs from NNCIL monthly, others, one time.   
  
The average amount NNCIL spends on rent relief per person, has been $2,862.07.  
  
NNCIL provides different ways of assistance, using CARES Act funding:  
Groceries

Emergency eviction relief

PPE which includes masks, gloves, and hand sanitizer.   
  
NNCIL has launched a campaign that is in beta test right now, it is called a “Potent Post”. It is a combination of a digital and a postal campaign. NNCIL has rolled it out in Carson City, Lyon, Storey and Churchill County.  
This is a linkage campaign, a postcard goes to a person, NNCIL will know when it's been delivered, and if a consumer follows up on the internet and looks at the website, NNCIL can track that to collect data regarding what is being viewed on the NNCIL website.  
  
NNCIL is hosting an event to celebrate the 30th anniversary of the ADA last year, in Sparks on Wednesday, July 21st, from 6:00 to 8:00 pm. There will be food and music.

Housing remains a major issue that NNCIL is hearing about, and getting requests for assistance with finding housing, moving belongings, storage, rental deposits, and the common requirement that renters must have two to three times the monthly rent, to qualify and have an application accepted, which is a huge barrier to a disabled person.  
  
NNCIL participates in city council meetings, state planning meetings, several transition groups. They have been asked by one of the state economists to participate in some planning, as well as state and local officials and builders’ associations, to educate communities about everyone that is living in the community. They are also encouraging Universal Design when things are being built. One of the current challenges is trying to inventory HUD housing, the lists have gone dormant and knowing where the accessible apartments are and what kind of accessibility features they have, is getting lost. NNCIL is taking part in rebuilding these lists.

Mary Evilsizer: The most common service request for SNCIL in Southern Nevada and Clark County, regards housing.

Housing requests include funding for rent increases, evictions, homelessness, they work with housing stability for individuals and partner with the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), to distribute mainstream vouchers, HUD has given SNCIL the authority to make referrals to the HUD mainstream program.  
  
SNCIL has been heavily involved with locating affordable housing for individuals, and nursing home transitions. A nursing home transition involves a complete move in and home setup for individuals who have been residing in nursing homes and are moving into a residence. They provide moving services, a rental deposit and first month rental assistance.

This includes the home basic needs and furniture for individuals transitioning from the nursing home.  
SNCIL has developed partnerships with HUD, Clark County Housing Authority, Medicaid transition programs, law firms, and housing coalitions.

SNCIL has been working to provide financial assistance to their consumers, this includes processing Social Security applications.   
SNCIL teaches self‑advocacy, health insurance recertifications, and food stamp recertifications.  
SNCIL does grocery delivery for those that cannot get out and get their own food.  
They have a partnership with a program or they prepare meal delivery for those that cannot prepare their own meals due to COVID.  
They have been mailing out PPE for individuals that do not have access.  
They assist individuals with paying for utilities, and with financial assistance for transportation.  
  
Rescue funds are funds to assist the homeless, and victims of rape or trafficking.

SNCIL is developing another program that establishes policies and procedures for vaccine awareness.

1. Report and Discussion Regarding Consumer Trends at the Rural Center for Independent Living (RCIL).

DeeDee Foremaster, Executive Director, RCIL

Dee Dee Foremaster: She is the Executive Director of the RCIL and administers the “Do Drop In” program.  
RCIL serves Lyon, Storey, Douglas, and Carson City areas.  
Housing is the most needed resource for the disabled homeless community. Many in this community are being sent to nursing homes because there is no housing. RCIL submitted a grant to enable them to assist with housing for people with disabilities. They are also being transferred into group homes, which they do not wish to be in, and the housing vouchers are no longer being accepted by landlords. Some individuals are ending up in substandard motel rooms.

1. Report and Discussion Regarding Aging and Disability Services Independent Living Program.

John Rosenlund, Director, AT/IL Program

John Rosenlund: The full data is posted on the SILC's website, including all the consumer services

Here is a brief overview of the AT for Independent Living program, regarding essential daily living needs people have to keep people living in their homes.  
  
Access into the home, throughout the home, being able to prepare a meal, any of those things that can be accomplished through assistive technology or somebody wants to explore those options and what their resources may be.  
People may not know the solution that will be effective for them, or something they may not have thought of.   
He offered to answer any questions people may have.  
This program has been around for close to 30 years. It covers these last resort services that do not exist through Medicaid or Medicare.  
The data is based on the federal year, this is the same information that's used to go into the annual report.  
They have had 305 active cases this year since October 1st, there are currently 214 open, 44 cases that people are willing to confirm or finish out their plans.  
  
The majority of the goals are almost an exact duplicate of what they looked at last year.  
46% of the goals are self‑care goals, goals to be able to address bathing and taking care of oneself.  
26% of the community‑based living goals, are related to home access, people trying to get in and out of, and around in their homes and taking care of daily living needs.  
  
17% of the goals set, involve mobility and transportation.  
  
Communication, information, and access to technology trail those.  
  
There were 22 goals prioritized for transition from a care facility into the community.  
52 of the goals were a prioritization to prevent institutionalization.  
His program tracks all that information to know how many people are in those priority type services.  
Those are the people that do not see the wait lists. The state resources are used for those first. Then they go back to serving people on the waitlist.  
  
He asked people to look at the survey data directly from the consumers in this program, including satisfaction with end results. The data also indicates quality of life, how the consumer feels and if these services kept them from going into a nursing home.

Dawn Lyons: Commended the IL program. The consumer satisfaction survey shows outstanding results and is based on great methodology. She also encouraged people to read John’s report.

1. Update and Discussion Regarding Upcoming NV SILC Trainings and Conferences.

Dawn Lyons, Executive Director

Dawn Lyons: The upcoming NICL Conference is July 19th through the 30th.  
Ace Patrick, Marina Holcomb, Julie Steinbaugh, Kate Osti, Vickie Essner and Dawn have signed up for that and it will be virtual.

The APRIL rural conference is coming up October 18th through the 22nd, and the SILC does not need to restrict how many people can attend. People can contact Dawn if they are interested in attending this conference, including youth. The SILC will pay the registration fee for SILC members only.  
  
The SILC is currently working on a new onboarding training series of videos that are more accessible, starting with Roberts Rules.

1. Update and Discussion Regarding State Plan Objectives and Timeline.

Ace Patrick, Chair

Dawn Lyons: The meeting handout regarding State Plan Objectives and Timeline is detailed and anyone with questions can contact her. This document is posted on the SILC’s website under this meeting’s materials.

1. Discussion and Make Recommendations Regarding the NV SILC Website Content **(For Possible Action).**

Dawn Lyons, Executive Director

Dawn Lyons: If anyone has content for the SILC website, please send that to Dawn.

1. Approve Next Meeting Agenda Items and Next Meeting Date **(For Possible Action)**

NV SILC Meeting Scheduled for October 6 & 7, 2021 at 1:00pm

Ace Patrick, Chair

The next SILC meeting will take place on October 13th and 14th, at 1:00pm on both days.

1. Public Comment

Members of the public will be invited to speak; however, no action may be taken on a matter during public comment until the matter itself has been included on an agenda as an item for possible action. Please clearly state and spell your first and last name, if unique or otherwise unfamiliar to the Subcommittee. Public comment may be limited to 3 minutes per person, at the discretion of the chair. Agenda items may be taken out of order, combined or consideration by the public body, and/or pulled or removed from the agenda at any time. Pursuant to NRS 241.020, no action may be taken upon a matter during a period devoted to comments by the public until the matter itself has been specifically included on an agenda as an item upon which action may be taken.

Mark Tadder: He is also the Blind and Low Vision program director for NNCIL. They will be starting a peer support group for transit riders in Washoe County for those who have a disability and would like to learn how to ride the bus. The group has people who have mastered the transit system and can help others learn how. They also have bus passes for consumers in the group. This process will begin in August and will have a meeting in about two weeks.

John Rosenlund: Care Chest is the statewide provider for the AT for Independent Living program. They received a grant for $300,000, over two years, to go into the direct service funding, which is quite significant for this program and the amount of time people wait for those services.

Ace Patrick: Congratulated Julie as Vice Chair and thanked everyone for coming to the two-day meeting.

1. Adjournment

Ace Patrick, Chair

**NOTE:** We are pleased to make reasonable accommodations for members of the public who have disabilities and wish to attend the meeting. If special arrangements for the meeting are necessary, please notify Wendy Thornley at (775) 687-0551 as soon as possible and at least five days in advance of the meeting. If you wish, you may email her at [wthornley@adsd.nv.gov](mailto:wthornley@adsd.nv.gov) According to NRS 241.020, supporting materials for this meeting is available at: 3416 Goni Road, #D-132, Carson City, NV 89706 or by contacting Wendy Thornley at (775) 687-0551 or by email at [wthornley@adsd.nv.gov](mailto:wthornley@adsd.nv.gov).

***Agenda Posted at the Following Locations:***

Notice of this meeting was posted on the Internet: <https://www.nvsilc.com/meetings/> and <https://notice.nv.gov> and <https://www.nvsilc.com/>